

What is claimed is:

1. A digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the system comprising:

a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to the mixing process, a first input terminal, a first communication interface, and a first control device that generates a mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements or to a first control signal input via said first input terminal or said first communication interface, and outputs the mixing control signal to said first communication interface;

an engine section including a second input terminal, a second communication interface, a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal systems, and a second control device that controls the mixing process executed by said mixing processing device in response to the mixing control signal input via said second communication interface and outputs a second control signal input via said second input terminal to said second communication interface; and

communication lines connecting between said first communication interface and said second communication interface.

2. A digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of

input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the system comprising:

5 a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to the mixing process, a panel display device that displays contents of the mixing process, a first computer connection terminal, a first communication interface, and a first control device that updates the contents displayed by said panel display  
10 device and generates a mixing control signal, in response to operation of said panel operating elements or to a first control signal input via said first computer connection terminal or said first communication interface, and outputs the generated mixing control signal to said  
15 first communication interface;

an engine section including a second computer connection terminal, a second communication interface, a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input  
20 signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal systems, and a second control device that controls the mixing process executed by said mixing processing device in response to the mixing control signal input via said second communication  
25 interface and outputs a second control signal input via said second computer connection terminal to said second communication interface; and

communication lines connecting between said first communication interface and said second communication  
30 interface.

3. A digital mixing system according to claim 2, further comprising a first computer connected to said first computer connection terminal of said console section, said first computer generating the first control  
35 signal input via said first computer connection terminal,

and a second computer connected to said second computer connection terminal of said engine section, said second computer generating the second control signal input via said second computer connection terminal.

5           4. A digital mixing system according to claim 2, further comprising a computer connected to said first computer connection terminal of said console section, and wherein if a fault occurs in said console section, said computer generates and outputs the mixing control signal  
10 to said first computer connection terminal in place of said console section, and said console section outputs the mixing control signal input via said first computer connection terminal, to said first communication interface.

15           5. A digital mixing system according to claim 2, further comprising a computer connected to said second computer connection terminal of said console section, and wherein if a fault occurs in said console section, said computer generates and outputs the mixing control signal  
20 to said second computer connection terminal in place of said console section, and said second control device of said engine section controls the mixing process executed by said mixing processing device in response to the mixing control signal input via said second computer  
25 connection terminal.

6. A digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process  
30 and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the system comprising:

an engine section including a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal  
35 systems and outputting the mixed signals to said

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plurality of output signal systems, and a computer connection interface; and

5 a supply device that is connected to said computer connection interface and supplies a mixing control signal for controlling the mixing process executed by said mixing processing device to said engine section.

7. An engine apparatus constituting a part of a digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein  
10 input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the engine apparatus being connected to an external console apparatus via communication lines and comprising:

15 a computer connection terminal for connection to an external computer;

a communication interface for connection to the external console apparatus via the communication lines;

20 a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the input signals from the plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to the plurality of output signal systems;

25 an abnormality detecting device that detects whether communication with the external console apparatus via said communication interface is disabled; and

a control device that controls the mixing process executed by said mixing processing device in response to a first mixing control signal input via said communication interface if said abnormality detecting  
30 device does not detect that the communication is disabled, and controls the mixing process executed by said mixing processing device in response to a second mixing control signal input via said computer connection terminal if said abnormality detecting device detects that the  
35 communication is disabled.

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8. An engine apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the external computer connected to said computer connection terminal generates the second mixing control signal input via said communication interface.

- 5        9. A console apparatus constituting a part of a digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals
- 10      are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the engine apparatus being connected to an external engine apparatus via communication lines and comprising:
- a computer connection terminal for connection to an external computer;
  - 15      a communication interface for connection to the external engine apparatus via the communication lines;
  - panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to the mixing process;
  - a panel display device that displays contents of the
  - 20      mixing process;
  - a control device that updates the contents displayed by said panel display device and generates a mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements, and outputs the generated mixing
  - 25      control signal to said communication interface;
  - an abnormality detecting device that detects whether operation of said control device is abnormal; and
  - an operation switching device that outputs a first signal input via said computer connection terminal, to
  - 30      said communication interface, and outputs a second signal input via said communication interface, to said computer connection terminal, when said abnormality detecting device detects that the operation of said control device is abnormal.

- 35        10. A console apparatus according to claim 9,

wherein the first signal is a mixing control signal that is similar to the mixing control signal generated by said control device, the first signal being generated by the computer connected to said computer connection terminal.

- 5        11. A digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of
- 10       output signal systems, the system comprising:
- a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to the mixing process, a computer connection interface, a first communication interface, an output device that outputs at least a
- 15       mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements, and a first non-volatile memory that stores a first operation program;
- an engine section including a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the
- 20       input signals from said plurality of input signal systems based on the mixing control signal output from said output device and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal system, a second communication interface, and a second non-volatile memory that stores a
- 25       second operation program;
- communication lines connecting between said first communication interface and said second communication interface; and
- a computer connected to said computer connection
- 30       interface;
- wherein when said computer connected to said computer connection interface executes an upgrading program, the first operation program stored in said first non-volatile memory and the second operation program
- 35       stored in said second non-volatile memory are upgraded.

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12. A digital mixing system according to claim 11, wherein at least one input unit that inputs input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and at least one output unit that outputs output signals from said plurality of output signal systems are connected to said engine section, and wherein when the computer executes the upgrading program, a third operation program stored in said input unit and a fourth program stored in said output unit are upgraded.

13. A digital mixing system according to claim 11, wherein when said computer executes the upgrading program, versions of the first operation program stored in said first non-volatile memory and the second operation program stored in said second non-volatile memory are determined, it is then determined whether each of the first and second operation programs is to be upgraded, and only at least one of the operation programs that is determined to be upgraded is upgraded.

14. A digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the system comprising:

a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to the mixing process, a first communication interface, an output device that outputs a mixing control signal at least in response to operation of said panel operating elements, and a first non-volatile memory that stores a first operation program;

an engine section including a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing input signals from said plurality of input signal systems based on the mixing control signal output from said output

device and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal system, a computer connection interface, a second communication interface, and a second non-volatile memory that stores a second operation program;

5 communication lines connecting between said first communication interface and said second communication interface; and

a computer connected to said computer connection interface;

10 wherein when said computer connected to said computer connection interface executes an upgrading program, the first operation program stored in said first non-volatile memory and the second operation program stored in said second non-volatile memory are upgraded.

15 15. A digital mixing system according to claim 14, wherein at least one input unit that inputs input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and at least one output unit that outputs output signals from said plurality of output signal systems are connected to said engine section, and wherein when the computer executes the upgrading program, a third operation program stored in said input unit and a fourth program stored in said output unit are upgraded.

20 16. A digital mixing system according to claim 14, wherein when said computer executes the upgrading program, versions of the first operation program stored in said first non-volatile memory and the second operation program stored in said second non-volatile memory are determined, it is then determined whether each of the  
30 first and second operation programs is to be upgraded, and only at least one of the operation programs that is determined to be upgraded is upgraded.

35 17. A digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of

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input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the system comprising:

5 a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to the mixing process, and a first control device that provides such control as to output a mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements;

10 an engine section connected to said console section and including a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal systems, and a second control device that controls the mixing  
15 process based on the mixing control signal output from said first control device;

20 at least one input unit connected to said engine section and including an input device that inputs the input signals from a first external device and outputs the input signals to said engine section, and a third control device that controls said input device based on the mixing control signal input from said console section via said engine section; and

25 at least one output unit connected to said engine section and including an output device that inputs output signals from said engine section and outputs the output signals to a second external device, and a fourth control device that controls said output device based on the mixing control signal input from said console section via  
30 said engine section;

wherein a computer is connected to said console section or said engine section, and the computer executes an upgrading program to collectively upgrade a plurality of operation software for controlling respective ones of  
35 said first control device of said console section, said

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second control device of said engine section, said third control device of said input unit, and said fourth control device of said output unit.

18. A digital mixing system according to claim 17,  
5 wherein the upgrading program comprises:

a detection step of detecting versions of the operation software for controlling respective ones of said first control device of said console section, said second control device of said engine section, said third  
10 control device of said input unit, and said fourth control device of said output unit;

a comparison step of comparing versions of upgrading software constituting the upgrading program and for upgrading the operation software for said first to fourth  
15 control devices with the detected versions of the operation software for said first to fourth control devices;

a transmission step of transmitting the upgrading software to at least one of said first to fourth control  
20 devices for which it is determined in said comparison step that a corresponding one of the upgrading software is newer than a corresponding one of the operation software; and

an upgrading step of upgrading the operation  
25 software for the at least one of said first to fourth control devices to which the upgrading software has been transmitted, using the transmitted upgrading software.

19. A computer program that can be executed on a computer that can be connected to at least one of a  
30 console section and an engine section constituting a digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, said console section and said engine section being connected together via communication lines, said console section  
35 supplying said engine section with a mixing control

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signal generated based on operation of a user, said engine section mixing input signals from the plurality of input signal systems based on the supplied mixing control signal and outputting the mixed signals to the plurality of output signal systems, the computer program comprising:

a detection step of detecting versions of first operation software stored in a first storage device in said console section and executed by a first processor in said console section and second operation software stored in a second storage device in said engine section and executed by a second processor in said engine section;

a comparison step of comparing a version of first upgrading software for upgrading the first operation software with the detected version of the first operation software, and comparing a version of second upgrading software for upgrading the second operation software with the detected version of the second operation software;

a first transmission step of transmitting the first upgrading software to said console section if it is determined in said comparison step that the first upgrading software is newer than the first operation software, whereby the transmitted first upgrading software upgrades the first operation software stored in the first storage device in said console section; and

a second transmission step of transmitting the second upgrading software to said engine section if it is determined in said comparison step that the second upgrading software is newer than the second operation software, whereby the transmitted second upgrading software upgrades the second operation software stored in the second storage device in said engine section.

20. A digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of

input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the system comprising:

5 a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to the mixing process, and a first control device that outputs a mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements; and

10 an engine section connected to said console section and including a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal system as mixing signals and a monitor process of selectively  
15 outputting the signals being mixed by the mixing process, as monitor signals, and a second control device that controls the mixing process and the monitor process based on the mixing control signal output from said first control device;

20 wherein at least part of the mixing signals are reproduced by at least one stage speaker arranged close to said engine section, and the monitor signals are reproduced by at least one monitor speaker arranged close to said console section, and

25 wherein said panel operating elements of said console section include at least one operating element used to control a delay time for the monitor signals.

21. A digital mixing system having a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal  
30 systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the system comprising:

a console section including panel operating elements  
35 used to input parameters relating to the mixing process,

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and a first control device that outputs a mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements; and

an engine section connected to said console section  
5 and including a processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal system as mixing signals and a monitor process of selecting at  
10 least one of the signals being mixed by the mixing process and outputting the selected signal as a first monitor signal, and a second control device that controls the mixing process and the monitor process;

wherein at least part of the mixing signals are  
15 reproduced by at least one stage speaker arranged close to said engine section, and the first monitor signal is reproduced by at least one monitor speaker arranged close to said console section, and

wherein said engine section further comprises a  
20 communication signal system to which a voice signal close to said engine section is input; and

wherein the monitor process executed by said processing device of said engine section comprises reducing a level of said first monitor signal if a level  
25 of the voice signal input to the communication signal system exceeds a predetermined value, mixing the first monitor signal and the voice signal input to said communication signal system, and outputting the mixed signal as a second monitor signal.

30 22. A digital mixing method applied to a digital mixing system comprising a plurality of input signal systems, a plurality of output signal systems, a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to a mixing process, a first input  
35 terminal, and a first communication interface, an engine

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section including a second input terminal and a second communication interface, and communication lines connecting between said first communication interface and said second communication interface, wherein input

5 signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to the mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the method comprising:

10 a mixing control signal generating step of causing said console section to generate a mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements and to a first control signal input via said first input terminal or said first communication interface;

15 a mixing control signal outputting step of causing said console section to output the generated mixing control signal to said first communication interface;

20 a mixing process execution step of causing said engine section to execute the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal systems;

25 a mixing process control step of causing said engine section to control the mixing process executed by said mixing process execution step in response to the mixing control signal input via said second communication interface; and

30 a second control signal outputting step of causing said engine section to output a second control signal input via said second input terminal, to said second communication interface.

23. A digital mixing method applied to a digital mixing system comprising a plurality of input signal systems, a plurality of output signal systems, a console section including panel operating elements used to input  
35 parameters relating to a mixing process, a panel display

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device that displays contents of the mixing process, a first computer connection terminal, and a first communication interface, an engine section including a second computer connection terminal and a second communication interface, and communication lines connecting between said first communication interface and said second communication interface, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to the mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the method comprising:

an updating and generating step of causing said console section to update the contents displayed by said panel display device and generate a mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements or to a first control signal input via said first computer connection terminal or said first communication interface;

a mixing control signal outputting step of causing said console section to output the generated mixing control signal to said first communication interface;

a mixing process execution step of causing said engine section to execute the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal systems;

a mixing process control step of causing said engine section to control the mixing process in said mixing process execution step in response to the mixing control signal input via said second communication interface; and

a second control signal outputting step of causing said engine section to output a second control signal input via said second computer connection terminal, to said second communication interface.

24. A digital mixing method applied to a digital

mixing system comprising a plurality of input signal systems, a plurality of output signal systems, an engine section including a computer connection interface, and a computer connected to said computer connection interface, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the method comprising:

a mixing processing step of causing said engine section to execute the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal systems; and

a mixing control signal supplying step of causing said computer to supply a mixing control signal for controlling the mixing process in said mixing processing step to said engine section.

25. A control method for controlling an engine apparatus constituting a part of a digital mixing system comprising a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the engine apparatus being connected to an external console apparatus via communication lines and comprising a computer connection terminal for connection to an external computer, and a communication interface for connection to said external console apparatus via said communication lines, the method comprising:

a mixing processing step of executing the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal systems;

an abnormality detecting step of detecting whether



communication with said external console apparatus via said communication interface is disabled; and

5 a mixing process control step of controlling the mixing process in said mixing processing step in response to a first mixing control signal input via said communication interface if it is not detected in said abnormality detecting step that the communication is disabled, and controlling the mixing process in said mixing processing step in response to a second mixing control signal input via said computer connection terminal if it is detected in said abnormality detecting step that the communication is disabled.

26. A control method for controlling a console apparatus constituting a part of a digital mixing system comprising a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the console apparatus being connected to an external engine apparatus via communication lines and comprising a computer connection terminal for connection to an external computer, and a communication interface for connection to said external engine apparatus via said communication lines, panel operating elements used to input parameters for the mixing process, and a panel display device that displays contents of the mixing process, the method comprising:

30 a control step of updating the contents displayed by said panel display device and generating a mixing control signal, in response to operation of said panel operating elements;

an output step of outputting the generated mixing control signal to said communication interface;

35 an abnormality detecting step of detecting whether

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operation of said control step or said output step is abnormal; and

an operation switching step of providing such control as to output a first signal input via said computer connection terminal, to said communication interface and output a second signal input via said communication interface, to said computer connection terminal, when it is detected in said abnormality detecting step that the operation is abnormal.

27. A digital mixing method applied to a digital mixing system comprising a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to the mixing process, a computer connection interface, a first communication interface, an output device that outputs a mixing control signal at least in response to operation of said panel operating elements, and a first non-volatile memory that stores a first operation program, an engine section including a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems based on the mixing control signal output from said output device and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal systems, a second communication interface, and a second non-volatile memory that stores a second operation program, and communication lines connecting between said first communication interface and said second communication interface, the method comprising:

an upgrading program execution step of causing a computer connected to said computer connection interface to execute an upgrading program; and

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an upgrading step of upgrading the first operation program stored in said first non-volatile memory and the second operation program stored in said second non-volatile memory.

5           28. A digital mixing method applied to a digital mixing system comprising a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals  
10 are output to said plurality of output signal systems, a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to the mixing process, a first communication interface, an output device that outputs a mixing control signal at least in response to  
15 operation of said panel operating elements, and a first non-volatile memory that stores a first operation program, an engine section including a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems based  
20 on the mixing control signal output from said output device and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal systems, a computer connection interface, a second communication interface, and a second non-volatile memory that stores a second operation program,  
25 and communication lines connecting between said first communication interface and said second communication interface, the method comprising:

an upgrading program execution step of causing a computer connected to said computer connection interface  
30 to execute an upgrading program; and

an upgrading step of upgrading the first operation program stored in said first non-volatile memory and the second operation program stored in said second non-volatile memory.

35           29. A digital mixing method applied to a digital

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mixing system comprising:

5 a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to a mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems:

10 a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to the mixing process, and a first control device that provides such control as to output a mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements;

15 an engine section connected said console section and including a mixing processing device that executes the mixing process of mixing the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems based on the mixing control signal output from said output device and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal system, and a second control device that controls the mixing process based on the mixing control signal output from said first control device;

20 at least one input unit connected to said engine section and including an input device that inputs the input signals from a first external device and outputs the input signals to said engine section, and a third control device that controls said input device based on the mixing control signal input from said console section via said engine section; and

30 at least one output unit connected to said engine section and including an output device that inputs output signals output from said engine section and outputs the output signals to a second external device, and a fourth control device that controls said output device based on the mixing control signal input from said console section via said engine section, the method comprising:

35 an upgrading program execution step of connecting a

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computer to said console section or said engine section and causing the computer to execute an upgrading program; and

an upgrading step of collectively upgrading a plurality of operation software for controlling respective ones of said first control device of said console section, said second control device of said engine section, said third control device of said input unit, and said fourth control device of said output unit.

30. A digital mixing method applied to a digital mixing system comprising a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to a mixing process, and an engine section connected to said console section, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to the mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the method comprising:

a first control step of causing said console section to output a mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements;

a mixing processing step of causing said engine section to mix the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal system as mixing signals, at least part of the mixing signals being reproduced by at least one stage speaker arranged close to said engine section;

a monitor processing step of causing said engine section to execute a monitor process of selectively outputting the signals being mixed by the mixing process, as monitor signals, the monitor signals being reproduced by at least one monitor speaker arranged close to said console section;

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a second control step of causing said engine section to control said mixing processing step and said monitor processing step based on the mixing control signal output from said first control step; and

- 5 a delay time control step of causing said console section to cause a delay time for the monitor signals using a part of said panel operating elements.

31. A digital mixing method applied to a digital mixing system comprising a plurality of input signal systems and a plurality of output signal systems, a console section including panel operating elements used to input parameters relating to a mixing process, and an engine section connected to said console section, wherein input signals from said plurality of input signal systems are subjected to the mixing process and the mixed signals are output to said plurality of output signal systems, the method comprising:

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- a first control step of causing said console section to output a mixing control signal in response to operation of said panel operating elements;
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a mixing processing step of causing said engine section to mix the input signals from said plurality of input signal systems and outputting the mixed signals to said plurality of output signal system as mixing signals, at least part of the mixing signals being reproduced by at least one stage speaker arranged close to said engine section;

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a monitor processing step of causing said engine section to select at least one of the signals being mixed by the mixing process, and output the selected signal as a first monitor signal, the first monitor signal being reproduced by at least one monitor speaker arranged close to said console section;

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a second control step of causing said engine section to control said mixing processing step and said monitor

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processing step based on the mixing control signal output in said first control step;

5 a communication signal input step of causing said engine section to input a voice signal in a vicinity of said engine section;

10 a signal output step of causing said engine section to reduce a level of the first monitor signal, mix the first monitor signal and the voice signal input in said communication signal input step and output the mixed signal as a second monitor signal, when a level of the voice signal input in said communication signal input step exceeds a predetermined value.

32. A program for executing the control method for controlling the engine apparatus according to claim 25.

15 33. A program for executing the control method for controlling the console apparatus according to claim 26.